

FEBRUARY 6, 1976

HABIB ON THE "PACIFIC DOCTRINE"
(PRESS CONFERENCE -- USA)

ANNCR:

TWO MONTHS AGO, IN AN ADDRESS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, PRESIDENT FORD OUTLINED IN DETAIL AMERICAN POLICY IN EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC. THE SIX-POINT "PACIFIC DOCTRINE" WHICH HE PRESENTED WAS THE FIRST MAJOR POLICY STATEMENT FOR THAT AREA SINCE THE FALL OF SOUTH VIETNAM TO COMMUNIST FORCES. THIS WEEK, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS PHILIP HABIB ELABORATED ON THE MEANING OF THE "PACIFIC DOCTRINE" AS GUEST OF VOA'S "NEWS CONFERENCE -- USA" ... AS WE HEAR IN THIS REPORT BY VOA'S JOSEPH SULLIVAN.

VOICE:

MINISTER HABIB SAYS THAT PRESIDENT FORD, IN HIS UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII ADDRESS WAS TRYING TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE PACIFIC AND ASIAN REGION CAN NO LONGER BE CONSIDERED AN AREA IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES CAN OPERATE WITH A POLICY DETERMINED IN WASHINGTON AND CARRIED OUT PURELY FROM THE STANDPOINT OF A WASHINGTON PERSPECTIVE. IN HIS WORDS:

TAPE: CUT ONE -- HABIB

"THE COUNTRIES OF EAST ASIA HAVE PROGRESSED SUBSTANTIALY, PARTICULARLY IN THE LAST DECADE OR SO. THE REMARKABLE GROWTH IN JAPAN, THE COMING TOGETHER OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS IN NEW FORMS OF COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR, THE RELATIONSHIP WHICH HAS BEEN DEVELOPED BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, THE ENTRANCE OF THE ASIAN COUNTRIES INTO THE WORLD OF MODERN ECONOMICS AND MODERNIZATION PROCESS THAT'S BEEN INVOLVED IN THAT STEP FORWARD ALL TOGETHER BRING ONE INTO A NEW ERA OF ASIAN AFFAIRS. IT'S AN ERA IN WHICH INTERDEPENDENCE AND COOPERATION WILL BE THE THEME."

VOICE:

IT'S NO LONGER POSSIBLE, MISTER HABIB SAYS, TO IGNORE THE FACT THAT THE FOUR GREAT POWERS ALL COME TOGETHER IN ASIA -- JAPAN, THE SOVIET UNION, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES. NOR IS IT POSSIBLE, HE ADDS, TO THINK SIMPLY IN TERMS OF ONE POWER OR ANOTHER EXERCISING HEGEMONY IN ASIA.

TURNING TO U.S. RELATIONS WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, MISTER HABIB SAYS WASHINGTON HAS NO INTENTIONS OF MOVING OFF FROM POSITIONS SET FORTH IN THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE. THESE, HE ADDS, INCLUDE RECOGNITION THAT THE CHINESE ON BOTH SIDES OF THE TAIWAN STRAITS CONSIDER THAT THERE IS BUT ONE CHINA AND THAT TAIWAN IS PART OF CHINA. HE GOES ON TO SAY:

TAPE: CUT TWO -- HABIB

"THE PRESIDENT REAFFIRMED AT HONOLULU, REAFFIRMED HIS DEDICATION, HIS DETERMINATION TO PURSUE AND COMPLETE THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON THE BASIS OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE, NOR DO WE WISH TO. THE REAFFIRMATION OF THAT PRINCIPLE AND THE CONTENT OF THE COMMUNIQUE WAS PART OF THE PURPOSE OF THE PRESIDENT'S RECENT VISIT TO CHINA."

VOICE:

ON THE SUBJECT OF REGIONAL SECURITY, MISTER HABIB OBSERVED THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS EXPRESSED ITS FAVORABLE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS AS THE KIND OF ORGANIZATION THAT CAN CONTRIBUTE TO STABILITY IN THE AREA. BUT ASEAN, HE SAYS, IS NOT SOMETHING WHICH WASHINGTON IN ANY WAY SEEKS TO INVOLVE ITSELF IN DIRECTLY IN THE SENSE OF ITS ORGANIZATION OR FORCING IT INTO ANY MOULD.

AS FOR AMERICAN COMMITMENTS IN ASIA, THE UNITED STATES, MISTER HABIB SAYS, HAS NO PRESENT PLANS FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN TROOPS FROM SOUTH KOREA, AND HE EXPLAINS:

TAPE: CUT THREE -- HABIB

"THE AMERICAN TROOPS ARE IN SOUTH KOREA FUNDAMENTALLY TO PURSUE THE BASIC INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE PREVENTION OF THE OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA. THIS IS AN INTEREST WHICH IS NOT ONLY CONFINED TO US, BUT IT IS ALSO OF SOME CONSIDERABLE INTEREST, AS HAS BEEN EXPRESSED BY THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT, TO THE JAPANESE PEOPLE, AND, OF COURSE, IT'S OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH KOREA."

VOICE:

AS FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND NORTH VIETNAM, MISTER HABIB SAYS THAT THE FORD ADMINISTRATION HAS MADE IT VERY CLEAR THAT WASHINGTON WOULD PREFER TO LOOK TO THE FUTURE RATHER THAN TO THE PAST IN RESOLVING ITS DIFFERENCES WITH HANOI. THE UNITED STATES, HE SAYS, HAS INDICATED ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS THAT IF NORTH VIETNAM TAKES STEPS THAT ARE CONSIDERED TO BE SENSIBLE AND RESPONSIVE THAT THEY WILL FIND THE UNITED STATES EQUALLY RESPONSIVE. BUT HE ADDS:

TAPE: CUT FOUR -- HABIB

"THEY CAN'T EXPECT TO TEAR UP THE PARIS AGREEMENTS, TRAMPLE ALL OVER THEM, DISREGARD THEM COMPLETELY, AND THEN SAY, 'OH BUT YOU STILL HAVE TO ABIDE BY ARTICLE 21, WHICH SAID YOU WILL PROVIDE FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF NORTH VIETNAM. NOW THAT IS COMPLETELY INCONSISTENT WITH ANY INTERPRETATION OF WHAT THOSE AGREEMENTS WERE ALL ABOUT.'"

VOICE:

TURNING TO JAPAN AND THE DEFENSE ROLE THAT THAT COUNTRY SHOULD PLAY IN EAST ASIA, MISTER HABIB SAYS THAT,

FUNDAMENTALLY, THE UNITED STATES WOULD EXPECT AT LEAST THAT JAPAN WOULD DEVELOP A CREDIBLE SELF-DEFENSE RELATED SPECIFICALLY TO ITS HOME ISLANDS. BUT WASHINGTON, HE ADDS, HAS NOT SOUGHT ANY GREAT EXPANSION IN THE SELF-DEFENSE CAPACITY OF THE JAPANESE FORCES. THE POWER THAT THE UNITED STATES CAN DISPOSE IN THE PACIFIC AREA, MISTER ABID CONCLUDES, SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO MAINTAIN THE KIND OF EQUILIBRIUM TO WHICH PRESIDENT FORD REFERRED IN HIS "PACIFIC DOCTRINE ADDRESS.

FFG/PBI